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one-third of the book, is a survey of the papers and proceedings of the Congress, giving a comparative analysis of the machinery and functions of local government in the principal countries. This survey is necessarily condensed; and limited, as it is, to the papers presented at the Congress, there are some important omissions. Thus, as Mr. Harris notes, there is no adequate account of institutions in Germany and Russia; and only one paper—on county government—dealing with local government in the United States. The other European countries and Brazil are well represented; and the survey adds much to the information available about local government in these countries, for many of which there had hitherto been no accessible accounts in English.

Among the many topics discussed special mention may be made of town planning, industrial undertakings, relations between the local authorities and the central government, preparation for and advancement in the public service, the protection of the private individuals, and documentation. One of the most striking features is the sympathetic discussion of the French system of administrative courts by an English writer. Mr. Harris, indeed, feels that the administrative departments of the central government in England are becoming in large measure free from judicial control.

The second, and larger, part of the volume contains in full the twenty-one papers presented to the Congress on Local Government in England, Wales and Scotland, and also three papers on the central departments of Agriculture in Great Britain, Holland and the United States. The various papers on local institutions contain considerable duplication; but together throw a good deal of light on the present day problems of local government in Great Britain. Three of the papers are by Sir H. George Fordham, Chairman of the Cambridgeshire County Council, and among the other contributors may be noted Edward Jenks and Sidney Webb.

An appendix contains an alphabetical list of the foreign authors of papers with the titles of their papers, which have been published in full, in various languages, in the official proceedings of the Congress.

JOHN A. FAIRLIE.

University of Illinois.

Hobhouse, L. T. *Liberalism*. Pp. 254. Price, 75 cents New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1911.

The first chapter of this suggestive volume tersely discusses the authoritarian government that preceded the modern state. In the religious, political, economic and social revolt against that kind of government, the author finds the historical beginnings of Liberalism. The main points at which Liberalism assailed the old order are stated in such historic terms as civil liberty, taxation without representation, freedom from domination of class or property, and equality of women. Having thus stated the historical elements in the evolution of Liberalism, the author proceeds to discuss the movement in theory, averring that "Great changes are not caused by ideas alone; but they are not effected without ideas."

From the theory of the natural order, the author moves on through Bent-

ham's Greatest Happiness principle to the theory of laissez-faire, making a significant distinction between social and unsocial freedom, through the modifications made by Gladstone and Mill, to the heart of Liberalism. "The heart of Liberalism is the understanding that progress is not a matter of mechanical contrivance, but of the liberation of living spiritual energy." In stating the relation between the state and the individual, the author makes clear that the conscience of the community has its rights as much as the conscience of the individual, and that the "right to work" and the right to a "living wage" are just as valid as the rights of person or property. He clearly distinguishes between Liberalism and Socialism, averring that economic Liberalism "seeks to do justice to the social and individual factors in industry alike, as opposed to an abstract Socialism which emphasizes the one side and an abstract Individualism which leans its whole weight on the other." Democracy is the development of social interest and the problem of all government is to bring home to each individual a sense of social responsibility.

The book closes with an inclusive and illuminating discussion of the present and future problems of Liberalism, such as pensions to wage-earners, the relations between the two houses of Parliament, relations between the state and land, and relations between the state and the wage-earner.

Professor Hobhouse is not constructing Utopias. His science is founded on the much sounder basis of social and political experience. Viewed either as a work on practical social and political problems, or as a work on political and social theory, the book is a most valuable contribution. The author has balanced his theories with social and political experience and has keenly analyzed social and political experience for their deeper meanings.

CLYDE L. KING.

University of Pennsylvania.

Hughan, J. W. *American Socialism of the Present Day.* Pp. x, 265. Price, \$1.25. New York: John Lane Company, 1911.

All fair-minded students of American social problems will welcome this sympathetic yet critical, detailed yet well balanced, study of a movement now commanding considerable popular attention. The book is the result of a successful endeavor to give a picture of present-day American Socialism, with special reference to the principal Socialist body in the United States, the Socialist Party. The writer takes up in turn the relations of the Marxian doctrine to the American movement, the modern conceptions of the Socialist commonwealth, and the immediate demands of the Socialist Party, illustrating each from quotations from American leaders and platforms. The method of treatment is such as acquaints the reader with not only the spirit of the movement but its personnel as well. No small part of the value and interest of the book lies in its discussion of the problems of socialism facing those within its ranks, such for example, as the questions of the attitude of Socialism toward the organization of a labor party in America analogous to that existing in England, its relation to the unions, both industrial and craft, and its attitude toward the middle class independent farmer.